School Construction Gets Into High Gear

Tenders will be sought in the next few days on construction of a six-room addition to S. J. Willis Junior High School.

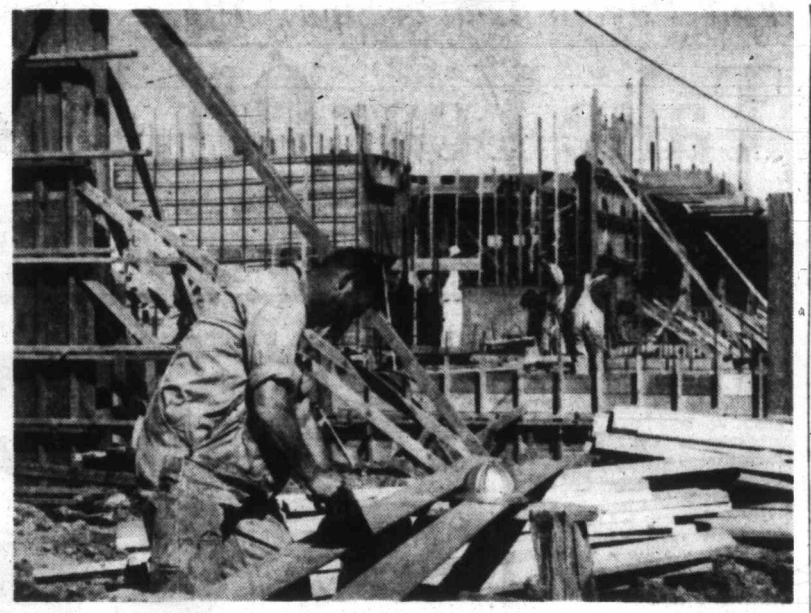
The two-storey addition will include four standard classrooms, a science room and a home economics room. It will double the width of the classroom wing which runs southwest from the main body of the school, "double-loading" the corridors which now run along the northwest side of the wing.

This work will be only a fraction of the Greater Victoria school board's program for 1959.

Now under construction for the board are the Esquimalt Senior High School on Phoenix, a $650,000 building; a four-classroom addition to Sir James Douglas elementary school, and the six-room Hampton and Shelbourne elementary schools, off Burnside and Gordon Head Roads respectively.

Working drawings are being prepared for a seven-room addition to Mount Douglas High School, likely to go to tender in about a month, and a new junior high school at Gordon Head, expected to go to tender in July.

An activity room at McKenzie Avenue school will complete the building program.



Esquimalt High Takes Shape

Construction of new $667,000 Esquimalt High School is going ahead rapidly with arrival of fine weather. School will take some of the student load off Mount View High and the present Esquimalt High. Landscaping of playing fields will give a facelifting to adjacent Skinner's Flats.—(Colonist Photo)

New Use for Vermiculite

Garden Mulch Insulates Walls

If you think of vermiculite solely in terms of a material for use in seed beds or as a mulch, you've been insulated from its role as a prime insulating material.

Vermiculite is an over-all term embracing a number of silica substances. The type used for a new insulation now in the market is specially treated, both chemically and with heat. It thereby loses that quality so dear to gardeners: the fantastic ability to absorb water.

The treated vermiculite repels water. When poured into block or cavity-type wall construction, its granules set up a barrier against heat transfer.

That is because each granule is a honeycomb of sealed air pockets. "Dead" air, air that can't "breathe" through wall construction, has good insulating qualities.

In new construction, savings upward of 50 per cent are cited for insulating expenditures.

Cement block garages and farm outbuildings are "naturals" for application of the insulating material, which is low in cost, light in weight and easy to install.

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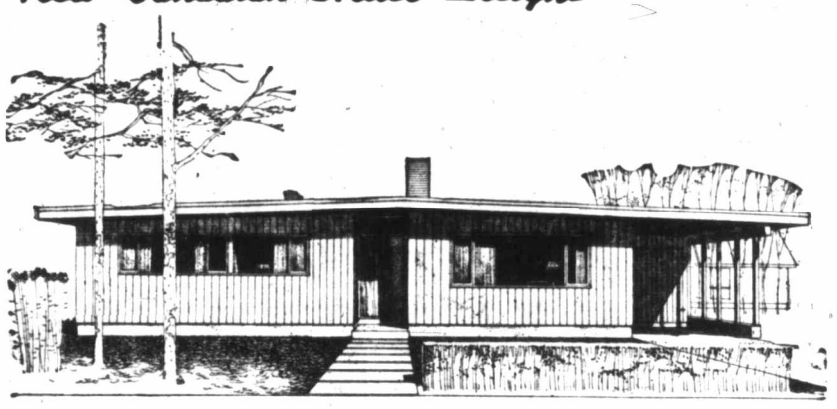
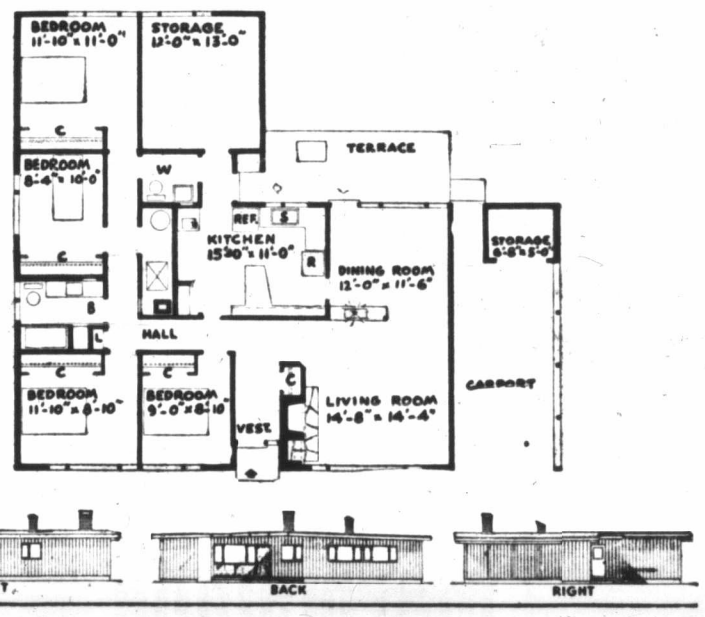


DESIGN 802: Architect Donald M. Manning, of North Vancouver, designed this large, basementless four-bedroom bungalow. The plan is suitable for a corner or inside lot site and should be oriented with the front door facing north-west. Total floor area of the house is 1,590 square feet and the exterior dimensions, including carport, are 54 feet, 10 inches by 45 feet, four inches. Working drawings for the plan may be obtained at minimum cost from Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.



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Newest Gadgets, Paints, Ideas Make Light Work of Decorating

This is the season when the lady of the house is apt to view her home with a critical eye and decide it's time to paint.

By no coincidence, the paint industry is ready to help with an abundance of paints and appliances.

The first step for any foresighted amateur is a protective hand cream that washes off, taking the paint with it, when the work is done. Or there are disposable gloves which may be discarded after use.

The do-it-yourself addict can rent a sprayer, buy one inexpensively, use the vacuum cleaner attachment or, for small areas, the new aerosol pressure can.

Or try the roller for a smooth, effortless job of painting. There's one for every purpose, and they come with handles long enough to paint the ceiling without stepping off the floor, and the floor without bending or kneeling.

A jelly paint is squeezed from a tube. It liquefies as it is brushed on—a non-drip product ideal for ceilings.

Masking tape or the more easily applied masking liquid should be used to protect window panes. Some persons prefer to apply a paste of kitchen cleanser to the glass before painting and then, when the job is finished, wash off the paint and cleanser.

An angled sash tool with metal guard is a dandy gadget for protecting the window pane or the floor when the baseboard is being painted, or to keep a straight line at the ceiling.

Try textured paint to hide knot holes or other imperfections. Special paint and applicators for texturing are available at paint stores, or a powder can be added to already mixed paint to provide the rough, third dimension texture.

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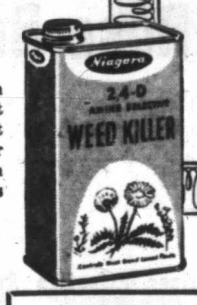

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